

MASTER THE CONTENT OF SCRIPTURE



The Book of Obadiah

(Observe, Interpret, Apply & Go)

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THE BOOK OF OBADIAH

Observe, Interpret & Apply

In our studies of the Bible, we will be using an inductive approach. This approach is a fun and exciting way to study the Bible! It's like being a detective. Instead of starting with a conclusion, you look at the details and clues in the text to discover the meaning for yourself.

Here's how you can do it:

1. **Observation:** First, you look closely at the Bible passage. You pay attention to:

- a. Who is in the story
- b. What is happening
- c. Where it is taking place
- d. When it is happening
- e. Why things are happening
- f. How they are happening.

You write down or make a mental note of all the details you notice.

2. **Interpretation:** Next, you try to understand what those details mean.

- a. You think about why the characters did what they did
- b. You think about what the important words and phrases mean.
- c. You may need to look up some words or ask questions to understand better.

3. **Application:** Finally, you think about how the story applies to our lives. What truth does it communicate?

- a. **What does it teach us about God?**
- b. What does it teach us about ourselves?
- c. What action (s) does it call us to take?

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CHAPTER 1

Summary of Chapter

The Book of Obadiah begins with a prophecy against Edom, a nation neighboring Israel. The chapter details Edom's pride and arrogance, which led to their downfall. Edom's betrayal and violence against Israel, especially during a time of distress, are condemned. The chapter predicts that Edom will face severe punishment and destruction due to its actions. This judgment is part of a broader theme of divine retribution against nations that oppose or harm Israel.

Opening Question

1. What do you think might lead a nation to become so proud that it acts against its neighboring countries?
 2. How can betrayal during a vulnerable time impact relationships between nations or people?
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Outline

1. **Introduction to Obadiah's Prophecy (1:1)**
 - Citation: Obadiah 1:1
 - Application Questions:
 - What is the significance of a prophecy in the context of the Old Testament?
 - How do you think the role of a prophet might influence a nation?
2. **Condemnation of Edom's Pride and Betrayal (1:2-7)**
 - Citation: Obadiah 1:2-7
 - Application Questions:
 - How does pride affect a nation's actions toward others?

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- In what ways can betrayal during difficult times be particularly damaging?

3. The Judgment on Edom (1:8-9)

- Citation: Obadiah 1:8-9
- Application Questions:
 - What are the consequences of Edom's actions as described in these verses?
 - How do you think this judgment serves as a warning to other nations?

4. Restoration of Israel and the Final Outcome (1:10-21)

- Citation: Obadiah 1:10-21
- Application Questions:
 - What does the restoration of Israel symbolize in the context of this prophecy?
 - How does the final outcome highlight the justice of God?

Possible Activities

1. **Memory Verse Challenge:** Choose Obadiah 1:15 as the memory verse. Have students memorize it and recite it to each other in pairs, then discuss its meaning and relevance.
2. **Role Playing Activity:** Divide students into groups and assign them roles as members of Edom or Israel. Have them role-play a debate where they argue from their assigned perspectives about the events described in Obadiah.
3. **Discussion Activity:** Facilitate a class discussion on the concept of pride and betrayal. Ask students to provide examples from history or current events where these issues have led to conflict or downfall.

Quiz

1. What is the main focus of Obadiah 1:1? A. The history of Israel B. The judgment of Edom C. The prophecy about the end times D. The description of the temple

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2. According to Obadiah 1:2-7, why will Edom be punished? A. For its alliance with Babylon B. For its pride and betrayal C. For its wealth and prosperity D. For its worship practices
3. What will happen to Edom's wise men as stated in Obadiah 1:8? A. They will be honored B. They will be destroyed C. They will be exiled D. They will become prophets
4. In Obadiah 1:10-11, what is described as a consequence of Edom's actions? A. Prosperity and peace B. Destruction and shame C. Growth and expansion D. Alliances with other nations
5. What role does Obadiah 1:15 play in the prophecy? A. It describes the restoration of Edom B. It warns of the coming judgment C. It details Israel's new alliances D. It predicts Edom's future prosperity
6. Who will be restored according to the final verses of Obadiah? A. Edom B. Egypt C. Israel D. Babylon
7. How does Obadiah 1:20 describe the fate of Israel's possessions? A. They will be taken by other nations B. They will be returned and restored C. They will be destroyed by Edom D. They will be sold to strangers
8. What is the key message of Obadiah regarding nations that oppose Israel? A. They will be rewarded B. They will be ignored C. They will face divine judgment D. They will form alliances with Israel
9. According to Obadiah 1:16, what is compared to Edom's actions? A. Israel's prosperity B. The drinking of wine C. The worship of idols D. The building of a temple
10. What does Obadiah 1:21 highlight about the future of Israel? A. It will be defeated B. It will reign over its enemies C. It will lose its identity D. It will face constant wars

Answers: 1-B, 2-B, 3-B, 4-B, 5-B, 6-C, 7-B, 8-C, 9-B, 10-B

Fill in the Blank

1. Obadiah's prophecy is primarily directed against _____.
2. Edom's pride and _____ are the reasons for its judgment.

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3. The wise men of Edom will _____ according to Obadiah 1:8.
4. The final verses of Obadiah speak about the _____ of Israel.
5. Obadiah 1:16 compares Edom's actions to _____.

Answers: 1. Edom, 2. Betrayal, 3. Be destroyed, 4. Restoration, 5. Drinking of wine

Vocabulary Words

1. **Pride** - A high opinion of one's own worth or abilities.
2. **Betrayal** - The act of being disloyal or unfaithful.
3. **Judgment** - The act of forming an opinion or decision about something.
4. **Restoration** - The act of returning something to its original state.
5. **Destruction** - The action or process of causing so much damage that something cannot be repaired.